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HISTORICAL NOTES.

A PLAY-BILL IN 1764.—Seilhamer, in his *History of the American Theatre*, vol. 1, page 161, states that the *Orphan of China*, by Arthur Murphy, was produced for the first time in America by the American Company of Comedians, at the Southwark Theatre in Philadelphia in 1766; he also states that the name "American Company" was first used at the opening of this theatre 21st November, 1766. He was evidently unaware of a notice in the *S. C. Gazette*, Nov. 5, 1763, stating that a "Company of Comedians arrived here last Monday from Virginia called the American Company."* It is unfortunate that Mr. Seilhamer's useful work should be so absolutely at fault in regard to the history of the theatre in South Carolina. He gives the date of the opening of the first theatre in Charleston as 22 Dec., 1773. As a matter of fact, Charleston apparently had the first theatre in America; at any rate one was built here in 1735. (McCrady, vol. 2, page 256).

The following advertisement shows that the American Company of Comedians gave the *Orphan of China* as a benefit performance in Charleston in 1764, two years earlier than the claimed date for its first appearance in America. The cast of the play as given here in 1764, is very different from the cast that gave the play at the *Southwark* in 1766, only Mr. Allyn, Mr. Douglass, Mr. Morris and Mrs. Douglass appearing on both lists.

The *Orphan of China* was written in 1755, and first acted in 1759. The farce, *The Anatomist or the Sham Doctor*, was written by Edward Ravenscroft, and first printed and played about 1697; it was reprinted in 1722, then revised and compressed into two acts about 1743; in this shape it was repeatedly reproduced down to as late as 1801. (*Dic. of Nat. Biog.*)—Editor.

*See Article in the Nation, Vol. XCVI, No. 2487 (Feb. 27, 1913) page 201, by Robert Adger Law.

"By Permission of His Excellency, For the Benefit of Mr. Morris; On Monday, the 26th of March, will be performed At the New Theatre in Queen Street, By the American Company of Comedians, A Tragedy Called the
Orphan of China.

Timurkan	}	By	Mr. Allyn
Octar			Mr. Emmet
Zamti			Mr. Douglass
Etan			Mr. Hallam
Hamit			Mr. A. Hallam
Morat			Mr. Morris
Orasming			Mr. Furell
Zimventi			Mr. Barry
Nirvan			Mr. Morris

Mandure by Mrs. Douglas

The Prologue to be spoken by Mr. Hallam, and the Epilogue by Mrs. Douglass.

After the Play, *The White Cliffs of Albion*, sung by Mr. Furell, To which will be added, a Farce called

The Anatomist, or the Sham Doctor.

Old Gerrald	}	By	Mr. Morris
Young Gerrald			Mr. Douglass
Mons. Le Med'cine			Mr. Allyn
Martin			Mr. A. Hallam
Crispin			Mr. Hallam
Simon			Mr. Furell
Doctors Wife	}	By	Mrs. Crane
Angelica			Mrs. Morris
Beatrice			Mrs. Douglas
Waiting Woman			Mrs. Allyn

After the Farce, *The Padlock of the Mind*, sung by Mr. Barry, and a song called *The Broom*, by Mrs. Morris

To begin exactly at Half past six o'Clock.

Tickets, without which no Persons can be admitted to be had of Mr. Cannon, of whom Places for the Boxes may be taken. Boxes, 40s. Pit, 30s. Gallery, 20s."

(*South Carolina Gazette*, March 17, 1764.)

TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS FROM "RICHMOND" AND "HYDE PARK" PLANTATIONS.—Richmond plantation, on the Eastern bank of the Cooper River, according to Dr. Irving (*Day on Cooper River*) was for a long time the seat of Col. John Harleston.

Mr. Harleston purchased a large tract of land from Dr. Martine, which comprised the two plantations of "Richmond" and "Farmfield." In the subsequent division of the property "Richmond" fell to Col. Harleston's daughter, Jane, who married Mr. Edward Rutledge, and "Farmfield" to his daughter, Eliza, who married Thomas Corbett.

"Hyde Park," also on the Eastern Branch of the Cooper

River, was part of the estate of Isaac Ball. The inscriptions were copied recently by Mr. Joseph Ioor Waring.

“RICHMOND” PLANTATION.

Beneath this Marble | are deposited the Remains of | Col.
John Harleston | and | Elizabeth Harleston | his Wife |
Who departed this Life | He on the 14th September 1793 |
Aet, 54 years | She the 4th January 1805 | Aet, 55 years |

Sacred to the Memory of | Thomas Corbett | Who died
28th July 1800 | Aged 5 years and 19 Days.

Sacred to the Memory of | Elizabeth Harleston Corbett |
Died 22nd January 1804. | Aged 11 months |

Beneath this Tablet | are deposited the Remains of | Mrs.
Mary W. Read | Wife of John Harleston Read | Who de-
parted this Life | 9th day of May 1817 | At “Rice Hope”
Plantation | Aet. 27 | Here lieth also the Body of | Sarah
Annabell Withers | Their daughter who | died on 13th Sep-
tember 1817 | in Charleston | A tender victim to the | then
prevailing fever. | Age 5 years 4 months and 9 days |

Sacred to the Memory of | J. Withers Read | Late a
Lieutenant of the | U. S. N. | Born 18th March 1817 | Died
28th June 1851 |.

James Corbett | Obit. 24th September 1817 | Aet. 1 year
and 7 months |

In Memory of | Mrs. Jane Rutledge who departed this
Life | 11th November 1835 | Aet. 62 years |.

[Long inscription.]

Here lie the Remains of | Rev. Edward Rutledge | Who
died on the | 15th of March 1832 | Aged 33 years and 4
months |

Sacred to the Memory of | Nicholas Harleston Rutledge |
Who died November 7th A. D. 1835. | Aged 26 years and
23 days. | In testimony of her affection | this Tablet is
erected by his afflicted Widow. |

INSCRIPTIONS AT "HYDE PARK" PLANTATION.

Sacred | To the Memory of | John Wilson | Who departed this Life | August 13th 1790. | Aged 40 years | This Memorial of her affection | was caused to be erected by | his Widow |

Sacred to the Memory of | John Coming Ball | who died at Hyde Park | 20th October 1764. | Aged 50 years and 2 months | And of his two Wives | Catharine Ball | who died at H. Park | the 25th of September 17— | Aged 32 years. | and | Judith Ball | who died at H. Park | the 2nd August 1772. | Aged 47 years. | As also of several of their children | and grandchildren. | This tribute of respect to their | memory is erected in 1821 by | Isaac Ball | Grandson of John Coming | and Judith Ball |

To the Memory of | David Franklin | who died on this Plantation | the 19th December 1797. | Having resided thereon 11 years and | 3 months as Overseer for | John Ball who caused this stone | to be put up in testimony of | his regard for Honest Franklin | "A Wits a feather, a Chiefs a rod | An Honest man, the noblest work of God." | His Wife and two of their | children are interred South of him. |